

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01
TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 /100 W
-----011230 089476/17

R 011036Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5530
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: NXGDS-3
TAGS: GATT, ETRD
SUBJECT: GATT WP ON TRADE WITH POLAND

REF: A) GENEVA 1227, B) GENEVA 1057 (NOTAL), C) 75 STATE 235933

REFTEL (A) NOTES THAT SUBJECT WP IS SCHEDULED FOR 23-25 MARCH.
BELIEVE WASHINGTON SHOULD BE AWARE OF FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL
CONSIDERATIONS:

1. WE NOTE IN STATE 40671 THAT U.S.-POLISH DISCUSSIONS ON
COUNTERVAILING DUTIES HAVE BEEN HELD. SINCE QUESTION OF
POLISH SUBSIDIES WAS RAISED BY EC IN LAST WP, REQUEST THAT
U.S. INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS SESSION ARM US TO DISCUSS THE
QUESTION IN REASONABLE DEPTH. NOTE IN ANY EVENT THAT PARA 4
OF POLISH PROTOCOL OF GATT ACCESSION AND PARA (I)(D) OF AN-
NUAL REVIEW PROVIDE FOR SUCH DISCUSSION (BISD 15TH SUPPLE-
MENT, PAGES 46-52).

2. IN PREVIOUS WP SESSIONS, U.S. HAS TAKEN LOW-KEY ROLE
AND HAS SIMPLY ECHOED POLISH AND OTHER CALLS FOR
ELIMINATION OF EXISTING DISCRIMINATORY QR'S AGAINST
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POLISH TRADE. WHILE WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD CONTINUE
TO GIVE MODEST SUPPORT TO ELIMINATION OF EC AND OTHER
DISCRIMINATORY QR'S AGAINST POLAND, WASHINGTON SHOULD
NOTE, PER REFTEL (B), THAT EC HAS URGED THAT U.S. BEGIN
TO PLAY MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN GATT WP'S INVOLVING EAST
EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. SPECIFICALLY, EC HAS REQUESTED THAT
U.S., LIKE EC, COME ARMED WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO

FOREIGN TRADE REGULATIONS. WE AGREE THAT U.S. SHOLD DO THIS. FOR EXAMPLE, 76 WARSAW 437 RAISES SERIOUS QUESTION ABOUT CONDUCT OF POLISH TRADE REGIME IN TERMS OF GATT REQUIREMENTS. URGE THAT U.S. INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPCOMING WP INCLUDE CITES FROM OR AT LEAST REFERENCES TO ANY PUBLISHED POLISH REGULATIONS WHICH MAY GIVE EFFECT TO THE POLISH TRADE POLICIES AS DESCRIBED IN 76 WARSAW 437.

3. THE POLISH TARIFF, WHILE PRESUMABLY ADOPTED, HAS NOT BEEN NOTIFIED IN THE GATT. SEE GATT DOCUMENT C/M/112 OF MAY 5, 1976, AS WELL AS 76 GENEVA 587, 76 GENEVA 1202, AND 75 GENEVA 6071. RECOMMEND WE NOT EXISTENCE OF POLISH TARIFF, OBSERVE THAT IT HAS NOT YET BEEN NOTIFIED IN THE GATT, AND STATE THAT SOONER OR LATER IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO EXAMINE THE TARIFF AND ITS ROLE. UNLESS NEW CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD ARISE OF WHICH WE NOT NOW AWARE, DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE TO PUSH EARLY GATT EXAMINATION OF POLISH TARIFF.

4. WE NOTE WITH INTEREST INDICATIONS FROM EMBASSY WARSAW, SUCH AS 76 WARSAW 397, THAT THERE IS DANGER OF DISCOURAGING POLAND FROM FURTHER LIBERALIZING ITS ECONOMIC SYSTEM IF WE SHOULD APPEAR TOO INFLEXIBLE AND DOCTRINAIRE IN OUR HANDLING OF GATT AFFAIRS TO CONTEXT OF STATE TRADING COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, DESPITE DIFFERENCES IN TRADING REGIMES FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY, IT SHOUD BE NOTED THAT MOST EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES REGULARLY ATTEND ALL GATT WORKING PARTIES DEALING WITH STATE

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TRADING MATTERS AND TEND TO ATTEMPT ESTABLISH PRECEDENTS WHICH WILL BE USEFUL TO ALL OF THEM. BELIEVE OUR OVERALL TONE SHOULD BE ONE OF OPEN REASON, BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT WE ARE NOT DOCTRINAIRE IN BELIEVING THAT STATE TRADING COUNTRIES CAN NEVER BE CONSISTENT WITH GATT PROVISIONS. OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE, HOWEVER, SHOULD BE OUR REALISM ABOUT EXISTING REGULATIONS. WE SHOULD MAINTAIN A "SHOW ME" INSISTENCE THAT TRADING REGIMES ARE INDEED AS LIBERAL AS THEY ARE PURPORTED TO BE. CATTO

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Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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